Self-Determination Workgroup
Meeting Minutes
30 January 2006

Present: Paul Smith, Scott Roudabush, Krissie Summerhays, Kenneth Ekong, Sara Brozovsky, Renee McCarvel, Angie Pinna, Lori Packard, Scott Payne, Brett Bartruff

Excused: Dustin Erekson

To start, new members of the workgroup were welcomed and introduced. Scott Payne is a new quality management staff, and Brett works for Avatar, and is involved in their quality and planning processes. Both are vested in promoting individual supports that are meaningful to people, and in helping them actualize goals that are important to them. They will both be an asset to the workgroup.

Information from the Center for Self-determination was shared. When gathering information and starting this workgroup, the website for the Center for Self-determination was consulted and listed, at that time, 5 principles of self-determination: **Freedom** to live a meaningful life, **Authority** over dollars needed for support, **Support** to organize resources in ways that are life enhancing and meaningful, **Responsibility** for the wise use of public dollars, and **Confirmation** of the important leadership that self advocates must hold in a newly designed system. This workgroup determined that these did not fully meet the needs of our state, completed surveys with multiple stakeholders, as noted in previous minutes, and developed areas to focus on: **Communication, Relationships, Opportunity/Choice, Respect, Future/Goals/Having a Life, Community/Contribution, Rights/Responsibilities,** and **Health/Safety/Risk.** Recently, the Center for Self-determination has updated its principles, and they are similar to the areas identified for our state, which appears to validate our own discoveries and the path we are seeking to take. Their principles are: **Choice, Relationships, Contribution and Community, Responsibilities, Control, Dreaming, Dignity and Respect, Fiscal Conservatism,** and **Whatever it Takes.**

The changes made to the overview module of Self-determination were reviewed. Additional changes were recommended, as well as ideas for how to present the information. The possibility of exploring this topic through games similar to Jeopardy, or Family Feud was presented. Local groups were added to the list of resources.

The rest of the time was spent reviewing modules that have been developed. One was Rights and Responsibilities, which has a great start. Ideas discussed included adding an example to distinguish between rights and privileges, adding information regarding guardianship, and grievances and discussing parent rights. Other possibilities are including a discussion on Quality of Life as opposed to an existence, discussion and examples around consequences and a discussion regarding at what point are rights restricted.

The area of Community and Contribution was reviewed. Lori and Tom Brownley are working on this area, and started and extensive module. Feedback on this included expanding a discussion of what a person likes, and where they fit in, and on finding connections.

Respect was also reviewed. It was in the format of a PowerPoint presentation. However, the slides are essentially cues for discussion and activities. Feedback on this area was to include building self-esteem, empowerment, and control. It also needs some scenarios developed for discussion. The option of including a sensitivity training was discussed and could be at the discretion of the trainer and time. Other suggestions are to include age appropriate language when talking with people, discussion about what triggers disrespect, expectations and having valued activity and work. It was also recommended that guardianship be touched on along with why each of us expects to be trusted and respected, based on our roles or relationships, when people may have experiences that are contrary to that.

Since this module includes video clips, it would be necessary for each trainer to have a copy of these. Paul was willing to check on the legality of using copyrighted materials for training, and learned that Title 17 of the US Code and the Fair use doctrine cover us in using copyrighted material for training, education, teaching, and the ability to use a sample of the copyrighted material for similar purposes. This should cover the use of the clips included in this module.

The need to make sure each area is general; to reach all audiences was discussed. There can be side notes, or sub-categories for items that are specific to a group, whether it's advocates, families, professionals, or others. It will be important to have skilled trainers and facilitators to be able to direct each workshop to the specific needs of the group.

It will also be important to tie each area back to self-determination; outline how it affects self-determination.

Thank you to everyone for working on each area of the workshop. It takes a lot of time, thought and effort to develop these. You're all doing a great job. Your feedback and insight on all areas is appreciated too.

Next Meeting **27 February 2006** from **1:30PM-3:30PM**